

Celebratory release of the new historic atlas of Dungarvan

Discover new maps and views of Dungarvan and enjoy histories of 1400 local sites

For immediate release – Wednesday 2 December 2020

This week sees the release of the long awaited publication Irish Historic Towns Atlas, no. 30, *Dungarvan/Dún Garbhán*, by John Martin. This unusual and special publication, from the Royal Irish Academy, is full of historical details, illustrations and maps, capturing the development of Dungarvan from its foundation over 800 years ago and presented in an attractive, large format. It marks the culmination of many years of work by author John Martin and the team in the Irish Historic Towns Atlas project, Royal Irish Academy, Dublin.

Join the online celebrations on Thursday, 3 December at 7pm on when author John Martin will present an illustrated lecture on the history of Dungarvan with maps from the new atlas. John is a retired town planner with a long family association with the town. After the lecture he will discuss his research on Dungarvan, the support he received locally, interesting discoveries, and how the atlas was produced with William Fraher, curator of the Waterford County Museum, Waterford. This online event is open to all and is free to register via <https://www.ria.ie/ihta-no-30-dungarvandun-garbhan-lecture-and-interview>

Dr Mary Canning, President, Royal Irish Academy said,

‘As President of the Royal Irish Academy, I welcome the publication of Dungarvan as no. 30 in our Irish Historic Towns Atlas series and congratulate author John Martin. With its own unique heritage, this work on Dungarvan will broaden our understanding of urban life here in Ireland and also internationally, where Dungarvan may now be compared with over 560 other towns covered by the European Historic Towns Atlas scheme.’

Councillor Damien Geoghegan, Mayor of Waterford stated,

‘As Mayor of Waterford I am delighted to see the release of the Irish Historic Towns Atlas of Dungarvan and being a native of the town itself it gives me even greater pleasure to see this project come to fruition. I wish to commend its author John Martin, and all who worked on this project with the Royal Irish Academy, and I know it has taken 10 years of painstaking research by John — it will be wonderful to now have the Atlas in print, in addition to the interactive map that was launched during Heritage Week, on the great town that is Dungarvan. I have no doubt, but it will serve as an extremely-useful tool in education and research and will assist those seeking to learn more about their own heritage as well as visitors to Dungarvan.’

‘As we look to preparing a new Development Plan for Waterford City and County in 2020 the launch of the Historic Towns Atlas for Dungarvan reminds us of the importance of understanding the evolution of a townscape and the influences of land management and human input to the social and economic fabric of an urban area. Thanks to the Royal Irish Academy and the wonderful research and dedication of John Martin we now have a rich compendium on Dungarvan that will provide a fantastic learning resource for anyone interested in local history, urban development and our built and cultural heritage.’ said Bernadette Guest, Heritage Officer for Waterford City and County Council.

- Dungarvan is no. 30 in the IHTA series

- It joins over 560 historic towns atlases across Europe
- Captures 800 years of development and details histories of 1400 sites
- Includes 30 historic maps and views on loose sheets

The publication is available to buy for €30 online via <https://www.ria.ie/dungarvan>, in Dungarvan town (Garvey's SuperValu, Easons), in the Book Centre, Waterford, and in all good bookshops. It will also be available to consult in your local library.

In addition to the printed atlas, there is a free online, interactive version — the Digital Atlas of Dungarvan, which was released for Heritage Week, August 2020. It is available to consult for free via <https://www.ria.ie/digital-atlas-dungarvan>

The Irish Historic Towns Atlas is one of the Royal Irish Academy's long-term research projects. Maps are produced in association with Ordnance Survey Ireland. The publication has been supported by Waterford City and County Council.

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Further Information:

Author John Martin and the Royal Irish Academy's Sarah Gearty are available for interview.

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About the Irish Historic Towns Atlas

The Irish Historic Towns Atlas is one of the Royal Irish Academy's long-term research projects. Dungarvan will join twenty-six other towns and cities in Ireland and over 560 across Europe that have been studied as part of this international endeavor.

IRISH HISTORIC TOWNS ATLAS No. 30

DUNGARVAN / DÚN GARBHÁN



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